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Bob Kirby Named Superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site

Philadelphia – National Park Service Northeast Regional Director Dennis R. Reidenbach has named James Robert (Bob) Kirby as the new superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site. Kirby, currently superintendent of Petersburg National Battlefield in Virginia, will assume his new post in March. Acting superintendent Mel Poole will return to his position as superintendent of Catocin Mountain Park in Thurman, Maryland.

“Bob is a seasoned veteran who combines demonstrated leadership skills with experience in managing an important Civil War site,” said Reidenbach. “As we look ahead to the 150th anniversary of the conflict, Bob is the right individual to oversee both the best known Civil War park in the national park system, and to manage a significant presidential site.”

“Historic sites are rich classrooms where we can explore our development as a nation,” said Kirby. “Few other nations openly reveal their history—the good and the bad—as we do here in the United States. That alone makes managing the national treasures in Gettysburg a profoundly humbling and vastly rewarding experience.”

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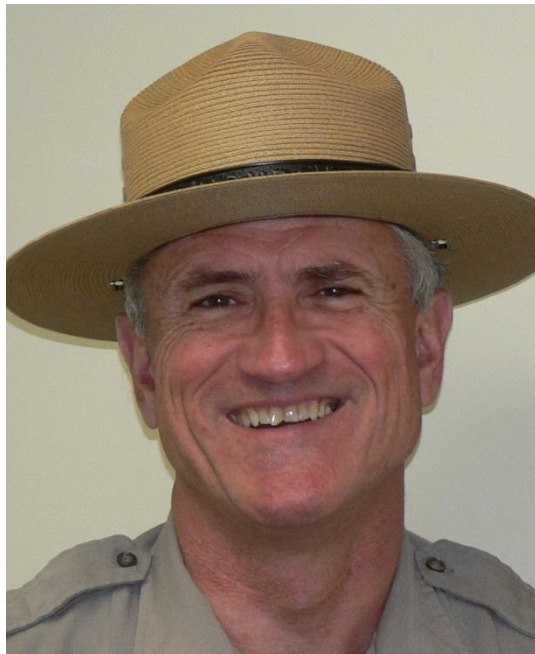
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Kirby was appointed superintendent of Petersburg National Battlefield in Virginia in 2001. He previously served as Assistant Superintendent at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, a 70,000 acre park located in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Kirby's prior assignments include chief of interpretation at Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell, Mass. 1990-1995; as an environmental protection specialist, Defense Logistics Agency, Ogden, Utah 1986-1990; outdoor recreation director with the Department of the Army in West Germany, 1983-1986; and assignments as a district ranger, sub-district supervisor, and interpretative ranger at Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco from 1974-1983.

Kirby has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies and a Master of Science degree in Recreation and Park Management from San Francisco State University,. Bob and his wife Beth have two children, Megan and James.

-NPS-



Bob Kirby

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